(b) As per the available information 54 sick Central Public Sector Undertakings employing 3.18 lakh persons as on 31st March, 1991 are referrable to BIFR.

(c) Employment strategy envisaged in the Eight Plan is to achieve near full employment situation at the end of next ten years.

Comprehensive Labour Policy

1599. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of strikes, lockouts and closures during the last Five Years in private and public sector industrial units;

(b) the mandays lost due to above reasons;

(c) whether Government propose to bring a comprehensive labour policy; and

(d) if so, how the aspect of industrial relation will be addressed to in the policy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Information is given in the Annexure, (*See Appendix CLXIV*, Annexure No. 29).

(c) and (d) Government's labour policy is to protect the interests of the workers while working towards promoting better understanding and maintenance of cordial relations between employers and employees. In this context, the Ramanujam Committee had recommended specific propoals for a new Industrial Relations law which is under active consideration of the Government.

Job Opportunities lost due to Economic Stability Programme

1600. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of job opportunities lost so far following the economic stability programme of Government;

(b) by what percentage, the backlog of the unemployment in the country, has rised as a result thereof and how does it compare with the backlog at the end of last year; and

(c) what is the strategy, if any, formulated by the Government to tackle the problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) (c) The economic policy of the Government has only been announced recently and it is too early to have an assessment of its impact on employment situation.

Pilght of Child Labour

1601. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of child labour particularly below 14 years age, is increasing despite various existing labour laws to check the employment of child labour, if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) the number of child labour in the country at present and its number likely to be by 2001;

(c) whether it is also a fact that out of the total labour force, one sixth is the child labour;

(d) the number of laws to check or ban the child labour in existence at present;

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to plug the loopholes in the existing labour laws; and

(f) whether Government have received any help from organisation or World Health Organisation on the plight of child labour, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MNISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) According to the 1971 Census there were 10.74 million child workers whereas 1981 Census shows number of child workers as 13.6 million. The 43rd round of the National Sample Survey (conducted in 1987-88) shows the number of child workers to be about 17 million. The data pertaining to 1991 Census and the likely number of child labour by 2001 is not available so far.

(c) No, Sir. The percentage of child labour to the total labour force is 5.18 per cent (1981 Census excluding Assam).

(d) and (e) Besides the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 provisions exist in several other labour laws such as the Factories Act, 1948; the Mines Act, 1952; and Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966; the Shops and Commercial Establishments Acts of the State/Union Territory, etc. which either prohibit or regulate the employment of children in specific areas. In order to make provisions more effective and remove deficiencies which come to notice amendment of labour Laws is taken up.

(f) UNICEF under the Master Plan of Operation has taken up various projects for the welfare of child labour and is funding the same directly. In order to assist the Government to co-ordinate information, research and training pertaining to Child Labour, UNICEF has supported setting up of a Child Labour Cell in the National Labour Institute. ILO has recently launched an International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour under which 6 countries including India would be given financial support for action oriented programmes for the benefit of Child Labour.

Emigration Clearance to Maid Servants going to Gulf Countries

1602. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided not to give emigration clearance to maid servants going to Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

1063. [*Transferred to 28th July, 1992*].

Installation of Solar Equipments in Government Buildings

1604. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 115 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th May, 1992 and state the progress made so far to instal the suitable solar equipments for water heating purposes on Government buildings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): The Ministry of Urban Development has constituted a Group on installation of solar assisted water heating systems in functional buildings on February 18, 1992. The report of the Group is expected to be finalised shortly.

Scheme for Ocean Development in Tamil Nadu

1605. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme/programme for Ocean Deve-